

## Local Government Innovation Fund Commission

Senate File 155 amended Iowa Code Section 8.64 “The Local Government Innovation Fund – committee- loans” by creating a new commission charged with broader authority in awarding grants. Additionally, the commission is to create a Tim Shields Center for Governing Excellence. The center is to provide nonpartisan research and training support for policymakers and government official, initiate research, and facilitate dialogues among Iowa’s state agencies, local governments, community colleges, public and private universities, local government and citizen organizations.

The original language creating the fund was amended to accommodate the new commission. The fund currently contains approximately \$770,000 as a result of legislative appropriations and repayments of loans awarded by the former LGIF committee.

The commission is comprised of 21 members, 15 voting and 6 non-voting. To date, there have been 11 voting members appointed and 4 non-voting members. The department solicited appointments during late summer and early fall. In an attempt to hasten the appointment process, the department requested dates available to meet during the first half of November. We were unable to find a suitable date to attract a quorum. The department will continue to request the final appointments and will attempt to schedule another meeting.